

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Tuesday, May 27, 2003

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## *Central State Reuse Advisory Commission named*

Mayor appoints community panel to provide input on the site's redevelopment

**INDIANAPOLIS** – Mayor Bart Peterson today announced the appointment of the members of the Central State Reuse Advisory Commission.

The 25-member panel will help guide redevelopment and give input into possible site reuses. The group is composed of neighborhood residents, elected officials, city planners, local businesses and others interested in the long-term viability of the neighborhood.

“The Central State Reuse Advisory Commission will be an asset in determining what the most appropriate use of this site will be, so that its redevelopment may provide the greatest benefit for both the local neighborhood and the city,” said Mayor Peterson.

In March, the city announced plans to purchase the former Central State Hospital property. At the time, the Mayor emphasized that all stakeholders would be given every opportunity to participate in the planning process and review and comment on the reuse recommendations. To that end, Peterson announced a comprehensive process – which will include extensive involvement from neighborhood residents and will take several months – to determine how the land will be used.

Beyond the Reuse Advisory Commission, other pertinent components in planning the redevelopment of Central State are:

- *Preliminary assessment.* To review past studies of the property and inventory the surrounding neighborhoods to determine the challenges and opportunities for reuse.
- *Reuse workshop.* The city, with the assistance of the Ball State University College of Architecture & Planning, will host a public reuse workshop to identify key issues and brainstorm ideas, articulate and develop alternatives and compile recommendations to present to the community. The workshop will be conducted over several days.
- *Feasibility study.* Depending on the recommendations, the city will conduct an economic feasibility study of the preferred uses of the property. The study will provide necessary market information to ensure that future development is both economically viable and sustainable.
- *Implementation plan.* The city will develop an action plan to implement the preferred alternative.

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*(more)*

This comprehensive process will help provide the city with input on the wishes of the local neighborhood, as well as other parties interested in the site's redevelopment.

Last week, the City-County Council's Administration and Finance Committee approved a resolution allowing the city to purchase the property, which will go before the full council on June 2nd. The city and state are currently working to finalize the details of the purchase, and with council approval, hope to close the purchase as soon as possible.

The first meeting of the Central State Reuse Advisory Commission is expected to occur in late June.

**The members of the Central State Reuse Advisory Commission are:**

- Merri Anderson, MCANA
- Diane Arnold, Hawthorne Community Center
- David Baker, Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission
- The Honorable Maggie Brents, District Councillor
- Jeb Conrad, Indy Partnership
- Bonnie Dotts, We Care Neighborhood Association
- Dennis Dye, Browning Investments
- Bridget Farren, Midland Atlantic Properties
- Tricia Frye, Indianapolis Public Schools
- Ricardo Gambetta, Mayor's Commission on Latino Affairs
- Donna Harper, Indianapolis Public Housing
- Gordon Hendry, Mayor's Office
- Chief Tim Horty, Indianapolis Police Department West District
- Deputy Chief Rick Longerich, Indianapolis Fire Department
- Doris Minton, Westside Neighborhood Association
- Rev. David Penalva, Washington Street United Methodist Church
- Mike Peoni, DMD
- Monsignor John Ryan, St. Anthony Parish
- Rev. Roosevelt Sanders, Mt. Vernon Baptist Church
- Dr. James Smith, Indiana Medical History Museum
- Don Stafford, NAI Olympia Partners
- Mark Stokes, Westside CDC
- Janet White, Stringtown Neighborhood Association Council
- Olgen Williams, Westside Cooperative Organization (WESCO)
- Joe Wynns, Indy Parks and Recreation